

Remarks

Claims 19 and 25 are currently amended. After entry of this amendment, claims 1-14 and 16-26 should be pending.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended by Examiner Jones during the telephone interview of September 8, 2005. During the interview, claim 19 was discussed in view of the prior art rejection raised in the Office action. Agreement was reached that claim 19 defines over the prior art of record. The substance of the interview is summarized in the following remarks.

I. Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,498,114 (Amundson). As agreed during the interview, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Amundson fails to disclose or suggest the elements of claim 19. The portion of Amundson cited by the Examiner discloses one step in a process for manufacturing a microelectronic device. This step involves the use of water to dissolve a patterned poly(ethylene glycol) layer. Amundson, column 5, lines 4-7. No absorption of water occurs during this process step. Therefore, Amundson fails to disclose or suggest “wetting [an] absorbing material with a liquid cooling-agent,” as recited in claim 19. The water in Amundson functions only within the manufacturing process and is no longer present when the device is complete.

II. Claim Amendments

As agreed during the interview, claims 19 and 25 have been amended to include the term “substantially” before the word “surrounded” and to include the phrase “at least a portion of” after the word “wetting.” These amendments are intended to be broadening and not to limit the scope of the claims in any way. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, in the specification at page 4, lines 14-15 and page 4, lines 10-12, respectively.

III. Information Disclosure Statement

As discussed during the interview, Applicants request that the Examiner provide an initialed copy of the Form 1449 included with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 1, 2004.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Office action's indication that claims 1-14, 16-18, 25 and 26 are allowed and claims 20-24 are allowable if rewritten in independent form. With the allowance of claim 19, dependent claims 20-24 also should be allowed.


V. Conclusion

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now in the application are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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